

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 20:19:01 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 15:19:01 -0500 (CDT)
From: "Perry W. Ogletree" <pogletre@mail.coin.missouri.edu>
Subject: re: 20 mtrs Alive ??
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950517151449.8993A-100000@bigcat>

6 has been hotter than a cheap pistol the last few days. I have heard several 6's and 7's on 10. (Can't work'em yet - no antenna and no +)

73 de Perry
N0NMC@N0LBA.#CEMO.MO.USA.NOAM (Packet)
pogletre@mail.coin.missouri.edu (Internet)

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 21:40:12 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 16:40:12 -0500
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <199505172140.QAA25710@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: 30M

I've noticed that 30M has been open until
midnight or so TX time.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 12:27:51 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 08:27:51 -0400
From: William McFadden <wmcfadde@oucsace.cs.ohiou.edu>
Message-Id: <199505171227.IAA27889@oucsace.cs.ohiou.edu>
Subject: Apology for double post

Hi all,

Sorry for posting twice for help getting my ARCI number. My first post was to the old Majordomo address. When I realized my mistake I sent it to Think.com, not realizing the Majordome would properly forward the first one.

72,
Eric WD8RIF

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 17:04:51 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 12:04:51 -0500
From: Bruce Pea <pea@wri.com>
Message-Id: <199505171704.AA19206@dragonfly.wri.com>
Subject: Buy or build??

Has anyone on the list used any of the MFJ QRP rigs? What did you think, good, bad, would you recommend it?

Likewise, which QRP kit would you recommend to a first-time kit builder?

Thanks for the advice!

Bruce - N9WKE

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 13:51:13 1995
From: penc@psuh02meteo.psu.edu
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 13:51:13 GMT
Message-Id: <95051713511233@psuh02meteo.psu.edu>
Subject: Cascade orders?

Yo:

I am a Norcal member but haven't heard anything for one reason or other about Cascade orders except that I am reading occasional posts about orders being taken now.

Is that true? And how do I order one before the deadline comes? Any contacts here that can point me in the right direction???

de Rich
WK2A

penc@psu.meteo.psu.edu

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 18:08:27 1995
Message-Id: <abdfef7db05021004c533@[192.31.66.240]>
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 11:08:27 -0700
From: ji3m@scubed.scubed.com (James R. Duffey)
Subject: Delta Loop Alternative to G5RV/Window

I would suggest that you look at a delta loop fed with open wire feeders as an alternative to either a G5RV or Windom. I have a 30M delta loop fed with 5M of open wirefeeder. This makes it 40 M from one end of the feedline to the other, and my TS 850S internal antenna tuner loads it up well on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 with a 1:1 coiled coax balun connection. The 850s loads it ok on 30, 17, and 12 with a 4:1 ferrite choke balun. An external tuner should have no problem handling it on all bands.

If it is installed low, less than a half wavelength, tying the feeder ends together and feeding it as a vertical against a counterpoise (or ground) results in a lower angle of radiation. This extends the range to 160 M as well.

You could make an 80 M delta loop fit between the two trees, split the wire length between the loop and the feedline to make access to it easy. Keep the loop above 60 M or so and below 75M or so for the best results on both 80 and 40. Just as in a centerfed longwire, there is considerable breakup of the radiation pattern at high frequencies and the main radiation lobes may end up in directions that are not interesting. A smaller loop for the higher bands may be more useful.

The delta loop has at least one advantage over the Windom/G5RV; higher radiation resistance which results in higher efficiency and broader bandwidth.

The G5RV feeders can also be tied together and used as a vertical on 40, 80, and 160.

Don't use long runs of coax with the G5RV as the losses will eat your power on bands where the SWR is high. Bringing the ladder line to the tuner and omitting the coax altogether will help this problem greatly. You can use 300 ohm twinlead to enter the house.

I did not create this wisdom, Moxon, G6XN, in his book "HF Antennas for All Locations" advocates loops fed with open wire feeders as simple all band alternatives to center fed Zepps, G5RVs, Windoms, and commercial trapped verticals.

Good luck. Let us know what you decide.
Duffey KK6MC/5

James R. Duffey ((505) 764-3143)
Maxwell Laboratories, S-Cubed Division
2501 Yale Blvd SE Suite 300
Albuquerque, NM 87106-4125
ji3m@scubed.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue May 16 19:46:29 1995
Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 09:46:29 -1000
Message-Id: <199505161946.JAA03725@mango.aloha.com>
From: beltrani@aloha.com (Paul Beltrani)
Subject: Re: Designing OUR OWN rig!

Kevin Anderson wrote:

>My brain must be foggy, but didn't we start all of this a year
>ago in wanting to design the INET rig? Is this an attempt
>to start that effort up again? I seem to recall the INET
>rig threads quickly heading the way of a super-duper radio
>with every widget possible being designed into it.

Someone else mentioned the difficulties of design by a committee that is spread across the world. I have suggestion that may get around those problems.

At one time, I was considering designing a radio that was based on a common backplane/buss. The actual radio circuitry would be on separate plug in cards. Much like the NorCal Sierra only with more plug-ins. Each section of the radio (e.g. blocks on the block diagram) would have its own plug-in card. The idea was to be able to experiment with different circuits without rebuild an entire rig each time.

e.g. Audio Strip, IF strip, VFO, etc. each have their own board. If you want to try a different VFO circuit, you just swap out the VFO board. To add some filtering, simply pop in a filter board. Making major changes/experiments would be as simple as building a plug-in module.

If the Group designed such a backplane/buss and perhaps some basic plug-ins, it would give us all a common design around which we could base more complex rigs. Those interested in SSB could work on SSB modules, those who want to work on DSP could design DSP filter modules. I picture it a bit like the IBM based PCs. It doesn't matter what features you want to add to your machine or who manufactures them. All you have to do is find a card that has the correct buss.

The one catch to this idea is a simple edge connector may not be suitable for all the signal paths. I do not know how much of a problem this would be at HF.

- Paul Beltrani

beltrani@aloha.com

ah6nu@nh6yw.hi.usa.oc Amateur Radio Packet

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 08:27:26 1995
From: CLATON.CADMUS@hamlink.mn.org (CLATON CADMUS)
Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 10:37:38
Message-Id: <800615320.AA01808@hamlink.mn.org>
Subject: DESIGNING OUR OWN RIG!

Adam O'Donnell wrote to the list:

AD>How many people would be up to designing the QRP-L lists own
>kit? I think that we could design one hell of a XCVR!
>What do you think? (It has to be something without a NE602! :-)

I'd be willing to give it a go. I can provide circuit board design and
could even run the eventual kits through my home business.

What should we design?

73 de Claton Cadmus, KA0GKC

```
-----  
| FIDOnet= Claton Cadmus 1:282./100 |  
| INTERNet= Claton.Cadmus@hamlink.mn.org |  
| PACKETnet= KA0GKC@WB0GDB.#STP.MN.USA.NA |  
-----
```

* SLMR 2.1a * A thing worth doing well is worth doing slow!-Gypsy R.Lee

---NoSnail v1.17

HAM>link< RBBS - Serving the Amateur Radio Community Since 1983

- 612/HAM-0000 v.34 Ham Radio Spoken Here!!
- 612/HAM-1010 v.32b Reply to sender @ hamlink.mn.org

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 11:27:09 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 06:27:09 -0500 (EST)
From: cebik@UTKVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: Re: Designing OUR OWN rig!
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505170617.A543472263-01000000@utkvx.utk.edu>

On Tue, 16 May 1995, PETER CALCANDY wrote:

> If the I-net group all participated in designing our own rig, it would
> look like a CAMEL!!!

> Regards,

> N2KPY

>

Probably more like a CAM-EL-EPHANT.

The real question about mixers seems to be this: if not the 602, then what? Improved 602 type chips? SBL mixers? Others? Which means would be adequate to what sort of rig? All-CW. CW-SSB. All-mode. And where in the rig. TX frequency mixing with VFO? RX front end? Detector?

I do not know if the 602 has a place in a modern receiver, but remember that the 555 chip is even older and the 2N2222(A) older yet, and they remain staples of QRP construction. Have even seen them in circuits in EDN. Almost as if they were like old shoes--not up to wearing to church, but mighty comfortable the rest of the time. Even the venerable 811 has made a comeback in linears (due to cost) (but I have not thought of designing one as a 5-watt QRP amplifier and winter shack warmer).

Actually, the ideal QRP rig may suffer from a lack of definition of the ultimate use objectives. A backpack rig and a home-station rig may have different requirements, and some of the requirements may differ in each category, depending on the style of, say, field operation--tent, motel, mountain top, open field, etc., as well as operating mode: contesting, dxing, rag chewing, etc. Good design begins with a clear set of objectives that can be translated into functional specifications that in turn define the circuit design parameters. Why not both IF and AF DSP? No reason at all, for some purposes; for others, lots of reasons to bypass that technology in favor of other filtering means.

I suspect that behind each of the suggestions about what should be in the ideal QRP rig is a thought in the mind of the person who offered the suggestion of what he wanted it for and why. That is very important data for making design decisions. I have doubts that there can be a single ideal INET rig, but I suspect that there may be many ideal INET rigs, each suited to certain purposes (and each slightly deficient in some way, since our purposes/goals/objectives/uses for the rig will vary slightly from person to person).

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 14:36:29 1995

"Computer controlled rig" - does that mean I'll have to go out and buy a PC compatible that runs Windows? No Thanks.....

```

..-.-.-.-.- -.-.-.-.- -...-.-----...-..
Bob Stafford - N9USD          aka 'CircuitRider'
Teegarden, IN 46574
(219)784-3790    - MALE breast cancer is a reality -
** Email- bstaffor@dialin.ind.net **
--.-----. .. ...   --. . . . . . . . . . - --- -.--- --- ..

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> From bstaffor@dialin.ind.net Wed May 17 14:16:05 1995
> Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 09:36:29 -0500 (EST)
> From: Bob Stafford <bstaffor@dialin.ind.net>
> To: Alan Kaul <kaul@netcom.com>
> Cc: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>, adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org,
>      qrp-l@netcom.com
> Subject: Re: Designing OUR OWN rig!
> Mime-Version: 1.0
>
> "Computer controlled rig" - does that mean I'll have to go out and buy a
> PC compatible that runs Windows?  No Thanks.....
>
> bob N9USD
```

Anyway, the idea is to build a radio which has some defined hardware and software interface; another project is to build a user interface which plugs into the radio. This user interface could indeed be

a Windows program on an x86, or it could be a Mac application. It could even be a purpose built front panel that turns knob motions into software commands and turns status from the radio into displays, like on any modern radio. In fact, the beauty of defining a general interface is that multiple front ends can be built, and even customized to someone's particular taste.

So, a "no thanks" note like this, complete with anti-PC/anti-Windows snobbery, really doesn't belong here (at least not yet ;-).

A more constructive note might be "Let's make the interface general enough so that the user interface is not constrained to one particular kind of computer and/or operating system. How about an RS-232 physical connection with a simple, robust protocol?"

Dana
Dana.Myers@West.Sun.Com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu May 18 01:06:42 1995
From: CLATON.CADMUS@hamlink.mn.org (CLATON CADMUS)
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 11:10:39
Message-Id: <800715624.AA01834@hamlink.mn.org>
Subject: DESIGNING OUR OWN RIG!

Hello to all on the list,

After reviewing the flood of messages on this subject and given that this is not a new idea to the list I think we have to change the focus of this project. What we really need to do is develop a method for doing projects via the internet. Doug H points out very well the need for leadership to get a project like this going and coordination to make it happen. So to get this off the ground I propose the following:

1. We need to find a project leader, since Adam was the one that got this going (again) I think we should allow him to be the leader if he chooses, or he must appoint one, or solicit resumes from those interested and post an election.
2. Because this is a first time event for this list, the actual first project should be small. Lets forget the bells, whistles, DDS, computers etc. Keep it small, cheap and simple. Simple enough that it will not require that a kit be made. One idea I had was that it must fit in a Altoids or Sucrets tin.

After we get this first project under our belt we can move on to bigger and better things. We got to crawl before we walk and run.

73 de Claton Cadmus, KA0GKC

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-----  
| FIDOnet= Claton Cadmus 1:282./100 |  
| INTERNet= Claton.Cadmus@hamlink.mn.org |  
| PACKETnet= KA0GKC@WB0GDB.#STP.MN.USA.NA |  
-----
```

* SLMR 2.1a * My 2 cents' worth, and priced just right!

---NoSnail v1.17

HAM>link< RBBS - Serving the Amateur Radio Community Since 1983

- 612/HAM-0000 v.34 Ham Radio Spoken Here!!
- 612/HAM-1010 v.32b Reply to sender @ hamlink.mn.org

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 12:30:07 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 95 08:30:07 EDT
Message-Id: <9505171230.AA03670@clark.dgim.doc.ca>
From: jcumming@clark.dgim.doc.ca (Jim Cummings)
Subject: Re: Digital QRP Experiences

Hello Jay:

>People may wonder if digital (Packet, PACTOR, GTOR, AMTOR) communications
>will work at the QRP level. I thought I'd throw in my observations:
>

Thanks for the obsevation. I will comment on them or ask questions as
required.

>Accidental Packet QRP on 17 meters:

>For a few years I've operated a packet gateway on 18.107 Mhz. The packet
>gateway provided connections between a local VHF packet channel (144.91 MHz
>)and HF. One day I'd used the radio (QRP-modified IC-735) at 3 watts and
>forgot to reset the power to QRO. I forgot all about it for three weeks and
>only one user on the 17 meter side complained about "conditions" to my
>mailbox.

>

>160 Meter TOR vs Packet Tests:

>I was interested in comparing HF packet (well, MF packet technically!),
>PACTOR and Kantronic's new GTOR mode. The transceivers were IC-735's, both

>at 3 watts with the QRP mod. The TNCs were Kantronics KAM's, version 7.1
> The fixed station used a B&W AC 1.8-30, an all-band Vee-like antenna with
>high-angle properties on the lowest bands. The fixed station was located in
>my City EOC. The mobile station was mounted in a full-size van. An Icom
>AH-2 tuner was used on the inner wall of the van, right at the base of a
>Mobile Mark custom helical whip for 1990 KHz. I drove around the local
>freeway and a few surface streets during daylight hours in the summer. I
>found that GTOR performed the best, followed by PACTOR... packet was a slow
>runner up and sometimes would retry out (or not connect). I achieved no
>great 160 meter QRP mobile DX records, but the comparison between the modes
>interested me. 160, 80, and 40 were also of interest to me for "high-angle"
>disaster communications.

>

Interesting experiment on 160 metres. Although I too operate mobile, I have not done very much with digital mobile, let alone with QRP. Most of my "emergency" work has been at camping sites, often using a balance fed dipole in the trees, not really great. However, I have recently come across some 34 foot pop-up masts that came on the surplus market up here. Your note here has inspired me to consider building an emergency antenna with one of these masts, fed with an AH-2 tuner installed in my Ford Ranger.

Would you be kind enough to describe this Mobile Mark custom whip? It sounds like the solution for operating true mobile on 160 metres with the AH-2. Are they available commercially? Is it only operable on 160, or can it also be used on other bands with the AH-2.

>The 160-190 KHz Experimenter's Band:

>(For you list police, this is not a ham band... arrest me!) It is legal to
>run 1 watt and any mode on this band. A few years back, I copied the RTTY
>and packet signals from WD4PLI's 183 kHz station, about 17 miles away.
> Again, no great DX record but it was interesting to see 1-watt data signals
>(pure groundwave signals) punch through the high noise level on this band.
> (Those LOWFERS* ought to get with it and set up a chain of packet nodes).
> *Low Frequency Experimental Radio

>

>QRP works with "digital" too.

>

I agree. I have 40 countries confirmed, with around 60 worked... it takes time for the QSL system to work hi hi... My best QRP contact was with VK2KM at 1800Z via long path on a Saturday afternoon. I am sure that qualifies for the 1000 mile/watt award. My next most memorable was with a station in Hawaii (AH6JF, as I can recall) on 40 metres QRP. My latest contact was with a station in PA-land this past weekend on pactor... we had a really nice chat for well over an hour, and he powered down too!

>72, Jay WB6AAM (ARCI 5050)

>jcoote@aol.com

>WB6AAM@K6VE.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA

>

>

>

I hope we will meet up with each other on the air soon to chat.

=====

Jim Cummings

eMail:jcumming@clark.dgim.doc.ca

packet:VE3XJ@VE3JF.#EONT.ON.CA.NOAM

73 and live better digitally

DON'T GET TOO EXCITED...

because remember, today is the first

day of the rest of your life.

=====

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue May 16 21:24:39 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 14:24:39 -0700 (PDT)

From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>

Subject: Re: For Sale: NorCal 40, A&A 20m

Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950516142334.23469B-100000@crl6.crl.com>

>

> "My XYL said it was either her or the ham rig.... OVER"

>

> :-) 73! =paul= wb8zjl

>

>

Well Paul, it nice to know that you now have room for the new rig.

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 16:03:00 1995

Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 09:03:00 -0700 (PDT)

From: patrick cook <kb0oxd@netcom.com>

Subject: Re: For Sale: NorCal 40, A&A 20m

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505170908.A9482-0100000@netcom17>

Hi Steve:

On Tue, 16 May 1995, Steven Wilson wrote:

> >

> > "My XYL said it was either her or the ham rig.... OVER"

> >

> > :-) 73! =paul= wb8zjl

> >

> >

> Well Paul, it nice to know that you now have room for the new rig.

Yeah! Now all Paul has to do now is sign the DIVORCE PAPERS saying HE
can keep the HOUSE!!! :) heheheh

73's for now, my friend!

DE KB00XD

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 17:06:57 1995

Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 13:06:57 -0400 (EDT)

From: prvalko <prvalko@oakland.edu>

Subject: Re: For Sale: NorCal 40, A&A 20m

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505171344.B2161-01000000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Wed, 17 May 1995, patrick cook wrote:

> On Tue, 16 May 1995, Steven Wilson wrote:

> > >

> > > "My XYL said it was either her or the ham rig.... OVER"

> > >

> > > :-) 73! =paul= wb8zjl

> > >

> > Well Paul, it nice to know that you now have room for the new rig.

> Yeah! Now all Paul has to do now is sign the DIVORCE PAPERS saying HE

> can keep the HOUSE!!! :) heheheh

>

I could ignore one bonehead misquoting my joke, but I can't ignore two.
For those interested, I repeat...

"Overheard on 75M phone...

'My XYL said it was either her or the ham rig.... OVER' "

Heck, I don't even talk on the 2M rig when my wife and family are in the
car, we have more important things to discuss than the WX and traffic.

It still is a funny line!

73! =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 16:15:22 1995
From: N5EM@aol.com
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 12:15:22 -0400
Message-Id: <950512120145_116342693@aol.com>
Subject: Re: How to cure J-38 walking

Here is my final solution to CW keys walking.

1. Go to your favorite machine shop.
2. Get them to cut you a piece of solid brass, 1/4" thick and about 4" x 6" (or whatever size is about 1 or 2 inches larger than you keys dimemsions.
3. Bevel the top edge to round it off.
4. Drill and tap holes to match your key's base.
5. Polish to a bright shine.
6. Mount your key with brass, flathead screws (my keys holes were countersunk).
7. Enjoy the amazed compliments of your visitors when they see your key on a beautiful base that weighs about 1.5 pounds.

Tours are available, please call for reservations.

72
Ed Manuel, N5EM
n5em@aol.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 15:06:00 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 11:06:00 -0400
From: "michael (w.m.) babineau" <babineau@bnr.ca>
Message-Id: <"23154 Wed May 17 11:07:27 1995"@bnr.ca>
Subject: re:How to join NORCAL?

In message "How to join NORCAL?", markem@PrimeNet.com writes:

> I've been procrastinating on joining NORCAL and now that the Cascade
> orders are being taken, I really need to do it. What's the procedure
> for joining? Can I do it via email? Is there an application I need to
> fill out? Where can I get one? Can I send in my memebership app and
> Cascade order at the same time? Dontcha just hate people who only
> ask questions?

>
> Thanks & 73.... Mark AA7TA
>

I'll second Mark's query, and would also appreciate it if someone could send me, or possible repost the original message on the Cascade orders (I seem to have deleted it).

Michael VE3WMB (babineau@bnr.ca)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 15:53:29 1995
From: Glen Leinweber <leinwebe@mcmail.CIS.McMaster.CA>
Subject: I-net rig? Doug Hendricks has the winning formula
Message-Id: <1995May17.115329-0400@[130.113.234.7]>
Date: 17 May 1995 11:53:29 -0400

Doug Hendricks made some TERRIFIC suggestions about handling a group project....re-read what he had to say.

I think the most important item was having ONE person in charge of a project.

All the excellent products I can think of were the brainchild of an individuals effort. Someone sees an unfullfilled need, and takes it upon himself/herself to meet that need. It turns out that many others have the same need too.

I think Doug has developed a winning formula for marrying technical expertise to a production/distribution engine.

Glen Leinweber VE3DNL leinwebe@mcmail.mcmaster.ca

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 21:11:34 1995
From: adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Message-Id: <9505172111.AA16212@philadelphia.libertynet.org>
Subject: INET rig RULES TO FOLLOW!
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 17:11:34 -0400 (EDT)

These are the guidelines for the INET rig:

- 1 - If you want it, you better have some kind of design for it.
- 2 - Each person who wants to work on the rig will receive a small block to work on.
- 3 - The current draw must be under 40mA
- 4 - The rig must cost under \$150

That is all.

--

Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Internet: adam@libertynet.org

My parents tell me that I just take up time and space. It's true -
I'm into relativity theory.

-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
Version: 2.6.2

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tCRBZGFtIE8nRG9ubmVsbCA8YWRhUBsaWJlcnR5bmV0Lm9yZz4=
=J0fv

-----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 04:13:02 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 95 08:11:39 MEZ
From: Urs Schlegel <schlegel@ccgate.ari.ch>
Message-Id: <9505170811.A09752@ccgate.ari.ch>
Subject: Knife in the tree

To the QRP-List

>kt3a wrote
>I tie a string on the end of an electricians pocket knife (blades in,
>of course). Then, I do the David vs Goliath routine and wind up for
>the pitch, leaving go...

Is there any need for Swiss Army Knives ?? ;-)) B-)

de HB9HAU

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 12:25:40 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 07:25:40 -0500 (CDT)
From: Bob Howle <bhowle@freud.inst.com>
Subject: Re: Knife in the tree
Message-Id: <Pine.SOL.3.90.950517072212.22275C-100000@freud>

I did a variation of this for years, but have since discovered that a slingshot and a fishing weight is much better.

I do a lot of portable operating from campsites - people used to be sort of friendly, stopping by for a chat, etc, but since I've started shooting at trees with my slingshot they tend to stay away. :-).

CUL / Bob

On Wed, 17 May 1995, Urs Schlegel wrote:

```
> To the QRP-List
>
> >kt3a wrote
> >I tie a string on the end of an electricians pocket knife (blades in,
> >of course). Then, I do the David vs Goliath routine and wind up for
> >the pitch, leaving go...
>
> Is there any need for Swiss Army Knives ?? ;-)) B-)
>
> de HB9HAU
>
```

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 13:40:07 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 95 08:40:07 CDT
From: msdooley@collie.aud.alcatel.com (Michael S. Dooley)
Message-Id: <9505171340.AA24071@collie.aud.alcatel.com>
Subject: MFJ-941D modification

Gang,

To those who were interested (or not so interested) in the mod I did to the MFJ941D I need to add one important piece of information. That is: the idea for the mod started during dinner with Jeff Anderson (WA6AHL), Dave Benson (NN1G) and I while we were all in San Jose on business last year... Actually Jeff lives there. Jeff has also done the same mod to the same type tuner with excellant results.

For the uninitiated... The mod involves building the circuit described by Doug Demaw in an issue of CQ... gosh I think it was late 1993 that issue came out. Anyway, the bridge in the MFJ tuner is replaced with this new circuit and, Jeff and I will attest, the sensitivity of the SWR measurements goes up dramatically. Makes a fairly good tuner into a real good QRP tuner.

Mike KE4PC

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 18:19:11 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 15:49:11 -0230
Message-Id: <199505171819.PAA14955@public.compuser.net>
From: rgobrick@public.compuser.net (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: Re: Modest Proposal

Steven,

Thanks for the tip - I'm going to call them for a catalog.

I hope you don't mind but I'm going ahead and post this to the qrp-l group for their info.

thanks again Steve.

73/72 Bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

> Dear Robert,
>
> I do not know much about SMT, but I do know a "Goldmine"
> worth of SMT parts!
>
> The Electronic Goldmine has every part you would ever want
> at low cost in SMT.
>
> They even have practice kits to learn how to solder SMT.
> You could build a complete 1.84 MHz XCVR the size of a
> postage stamp. (Well, I couldn't, but maybe you could!)
>
> Yes, they even have SMT toroids!
>
> They are at: (602) 451-7454 (voice); (602) 451-9495 (fax);
> PO Box 5408, Scottsdale, AZ 85261 (snail mail)
>
> 73's,
> Stephen S.
> WA3ZGT
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 11:39:00 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 06:39:00 -0500 (EST)
From: cebik@UTK.VX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: Re: Modest Proposal (on SMC kits)

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505170652.A543472263-0100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

Bob,

As part of the project, perhaps the kitter organization can also make up kits of the proper tool set that builders need for SMC construction: the right magnifier, soldering iron, tweezers, 3rd-hand mechanisms, etc., with perhaps a small practice board with an SMC AF amp as a warm-up. When Heathkit started using transistors, they added a page of instruction on soldering them. Later, with PC boards, they added a page of instruction on how to handle parts placement and soldering--all things we take for granted nowadays. I'll bet a hobbyist SMC learning kit, with a good instruction manual, would have a sales potential well beyond this net, even beyond all the qrp club members of all the clubs in the world.

I remember ruining many a component in my first attempt to solder together a circuit (I broke capacitor leads at the cap body with great regularity for bad practice reasons I no longer remember). A practice kit with a practical (but not necessarily on-the-air) use, the right tools, and the right instruction for non-mass-production techniques might go a long way toward building builder confidence in SMC.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 13:25:21 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 10:55:21 -0230
Message-Id: <199505171325.KAA08977@public.compuserc.nf.ca>
From: rgobrick@public.compuserc.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: Re: Modest Proposal (on SMC kits)

LB,

I think you are absolutely right-on with your observations. I would like to see a real starter-kit on SMC. An exercise to see if I really am equipped and capable to delve into SMC work. If it doesn't work out I don't want to be out \$100. I remember a few years ago I tried to buy a LM386 like SMC kit from an outfit in the UK that (Blue Rose or something like that) that had one or two of these 'starter' kits. I seem to recollect that Popular Electronics also had something recently on an SMC kit (albeit they were not ham related - a NE555 with flashing lights or something).

Anyway I'm trying to get some interest in this area and hopefully a local club or "cluster" group can get together and carry the project forward. I think everyone who wants to participate in this qrp-l project needs to read

Doug Hendricks posting on the QRP-L Rig. We know for a fact that he speaks the truth - the track record of Norcal demonstrates that.

I still think what we can do here on the qrp-l is to get the general "knowledge" base up and encourage a local club to step forward to "manage" the project. The QRP-L is a good forum to "brainstorm" ideas (a valuable asset) but I don't think it is capable as a "committee" to manage the project (Boy this is started to sound like work... I'm out of here... ;-)

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>Bob,

>

>As part of the project, perhaps the kitter organization can also make up
>kits of the proper tool set that builders need for SMC construction: the
>right magnifier, soldering iron, tweezers, 3rd-hand mechanisms, etc.,
>with perhaps a small practice board with an SMC AF amp as a warm-up.
>When Heathkit started using transistors, they added a page of instruction
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>instruction on how to handle parts placement and soldering--all things we
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>good instruction manual, would have a sales potential well beyond this
>net, even beyond all the qrp club members of all the clubs in the world.

>

>I remember ruining many a component in my first attempt to solder
>together a circuit (I broke capacitor leads at the cap body with great
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>kit with a practical (but not necessarily on-the-air) use, the right
>tools, and the right instruction for non-mass-production techniques might
>go a long way toward building builder confidence in SMC.

>

>-73-

>LB, W4RNL

>

>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 18:52:55 1995

Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 13:52:55 -0500 (EST)

From: cebik@UTKVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU

Subject: Re: Modest Proposal (on SMC kits)

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505171354.A543449893-0100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

Bob,

We are in accord. However, do not forget the rules. A person with good

ideas who leaves the room ends up chairing the committee. All in favor, please e-mail Bob, addressing him as Mr. SMC Chairperson. (And thanks for consistently calling this SMC, not SM. Although working with these tiny components and terminals may be sadistic or masochistic, I do not think that is the usual context of use for the short abbreviation.)

In any event, a short course, emphasizing tools and techniques for the various component types available would be a very popular item, I believe, for even those who might decide against extensive SMC construction would want to know more about what they are against and up against.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 17:23:54 1995
Message-Id: <199505171723.NAA12112@jfwhome.funhouse.com>
Subject: Re: Modest Proposal/SMT rig
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 13:23:54 -0400
From: "John F. Woods" <jfw@jfwhome.funhouse.com>

It occurs to me that surface mount would adapt itself pretty well to a modular experimental rig, something like the 10MHz/18MHz receiver in QRP Classics and the '92 Handbook, but with modules about a quarter the size or less (think of it as large homebrewed ICs).

This idea has the advantage that someone could simply step forward with, say, a surface mount VFO or audio amp design for people to reproduce and play with.

Hmm. DigiKey has a surface mount LM1877 (dual power audio amp), and a surface mount LM1496 mixer. Hmm, no obvious candidates for a PA transistor in SMT, but they do have varactors in surface mount (Zetex FMMV109CT looks like a fairly good choice, ~30pF nominal max and a 5.0-6.5 ratio over 30 volts).

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 20:45:54 1995
From: rehm@zso.dec.com
Message-Id: <9505172045.AA06473@slugbt.zso.dec.com>
Subject: Re: Modest Proposal/SMT rig - SurfBoard
Date: Wed, 17 May 95 13:45:54 -0700

I seem to remember seeing an ad in Electronic Design or Circuit Cellar (or was it QST?) for a surface mount prototyping board. Basically, it's just a sea of pads.

Tweezers, some SuperGlue, a pencil type soldering iron, and a Luxo-type magnifier, and solder should be all one needs in addition to a SMT proto board to get started.

I'll post full details as soon as I find it.

/eric rehm
KJ7AE
Seattle

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue May 16 22:25:28 1995
Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 17:25:28 -0500
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <199505162225.RAA23750@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: MPF131 MOSFETs

Gang,

OK, from zero start.

Last week I mentioned that I had some MPF131s and someone sent me specs and another had an ASCII pin out. These were posted, so if you missed it go to the archives at sunsite.unc.edu to get them. These are dual-gate MOSFETs.

Here's the deal and this is a one-time deal only. I am not going into business to do this. :-)
These look like good substitutes for the old MOSFETs that you see in DeMaw's and W7ZOIs books.

I can get a large quantity and I do mean a large quantity (you don't wanna know, trust me) and I can get them at 3/\$1.

I only see two problems.

- 1: I want to ship them with the pins flat out, not bent down.
- 2: You have to pay me with a MO, the reason is that I don't get to the bank during regular hours, so you pay the \$0.59 typical charge at the PO or 7-11.

For this, I'll charge you only \$0.55 (domestic) for postage. I think that I can put them on aluminum foil between manilla folder and they'll get to you in fine shape. That'll allow up to two oz. of the critters and they are light anyway.

So, I'll go in on Wednesday and pick them up, that is May 24th of next week. So, email me if you are going to want any and how many and how soon I can expect too see funding.

In subject line, put MOSFET somewhere, so that I can filter them into a single file. I'll need your name, email, snail-mail, and quantity on a single line. I'm over 80wpm or so on the typing speed, but I don't need the practice. :-)

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 06:26:00 1995
Date: Tue, 16 May 95 18:08:29 HST
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)
Message-Id: <9505170408.AA28454@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>
Subject: other lists

The sister list to QRP-L is Boatanchors, dedicated to the older tube rigs (amateur, military, commercial), and radio history. A wonderful list!

To subscribe send an email to listproc@theporch.com and (as usual) only write:

subscribe boatanchors (or: unsubscribe boatanchors).

To get to the whole list use boatanchors@theporch.com.

Jeff NH6IL

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 13:25:06 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 10:55:06 -0230

Message-Id: <199505171325.KAA08963@public.compusult.nf.ca>
From: rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: Re: Pixie 2 - "Build it" Rig from Dayton

Joe,

Yea - I think I'd go crazy after hearing that cw tape blasting all weekend - hi.

That antenna stall I think was WD4BUM - I think he is there every year - good stuff. What kind of mag mount did you get -one of those gigantic ones to hold the 30 meter hamstick? Can you drive with it? One of my cars (the one my wife has) I went ahead and installed a Hustler ball mount on the left rear side panel and it has always worked well. I now have my wifes Nissan station wagen on the job here in Newfoundland and I am thinking of drilling a hole and mounting a ball mount there but I keep thinking that maybe I should just buy a heavy duty mag mount or one of those fancy heavy duty Diawa type gutter/rear hatch mounts. Any ideas?

>

>OBQRP - Across the aisle was an antenna dealer with nice mag mounts. I got one
>for my 30 meter hamstick. I intend to use it sometime this summer fixed
>portable with my NE 30-40 for the QRP propagation study. Haven't fired up the
>rig into it yet but my RF-1 says the SWR is under 1.5:1. I may try it out
>lunchtimes from work, but you didn't hear that from me!

>

>72/73,

>

>Joe E. N2CX

>

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 13:25:12 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 10:55:12 -0230
Message-Id: <199505171325.KAA08969@public.compusult.nf.ca>
From: rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: Re: Pixie 2....The Bad News?....

Jim,

I will admit that I have not put my scope on the output of my 300 mw Pixie.
And also it's been a while since I calibrated my OHR QRP wattmeter.

I won't comment on the circuit as much to say that yous get what yous pay for.

Finally if you want to read a real "rain on the parade" article check out
Doug Demaws W1FB column in the latest issue of CQ magazine. He really gets

on the QRP designers about the inadequacy of the final tank circuit design in their designs. It appears spectrally that the single and double stage output networks are not so clean on second and third harmonic suppression - look what this new design software is doing to our hobby....

Geez I wonder if my Pixie will chirp is the battery voltage gets low on the two transistor design??

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

PS: Keep us informed on your transistor selection experiments for the Pixie.

>I hate to rain on this nice Pixie 2 parade, but for those of you who have
>built this puppy up AND have oscilloscopes, check the power output. I
>knocked one together dead bug style last nite, and into a dummy load the
>waveform is Ugly. Even with the low pass filter, the waveform is still
>pretty gross.

>

>I wondered about the 300 mW claims, and tried all manner of PA (2N3053,
>2N3866, MRF 472, 2N3019) and could only get 300 mW out if running 24 volts on
>the supply. I will try a 2N2222A as the PA tonite. (Will also play with the
>oscillator, trying a metal can '2222A, and an MPS 6521 to replace the plastic
>'2222 that is there now).

>

>So my guess is either all my transistors are junque (they did come from the
>junque boxe), or those ugly waveforms are giving the usual 'ugly waveform
>enhancement' to the wattmeter reading.

>

>Ah, Devil's Advocate! Comes from too many readings of Morrison and Boyd in
>college! Let's get some scopes on those pixies and see how they perform.

>

>

>73, Jim N00CT

>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 19:43:07 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 14:43:07 -0500 (CDT)
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: QRP+ probably going 4 sale
Message-Id: <01HQM36YBG0IFA002K@tntech.edu>

The guy who was going to take my QRP+ when it came in backed out.

If someone is interested in it I will want to unpack it and test it for about a week and then send it out \$535 shipped US.

73

Jeff

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 23:03:47 1995
From: adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Message-Id: <9505172303.AA19512@philadelphia.libertynet.org>
Subject: qrp-l Resource list
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 19:03:47 -0400 (EDT)

I we should now put the QRP-L Resource page on Yahoo.
What do you think?

--

Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Internet: adam@libertynet.org

My parents tell me that I just take up time and space. It's true -
I'm into relativity theory.

-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
Version: 2.6.2

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From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 04:20:08 1995
Date: Tue, 16 May 95 21:20:08 PDT
Message-Id: <9505170420.AA01324@altair.csustan.edu>
From: dh@altair.csustan.edu (Doug Hendricks)
Subject: QRP-L Rig

Guys, I read with interest the discussion last year about an Inet rig. It started out simple, and then exploded into the rig of all rigs. I chuckled at the tangled maze of threads that went by. I have some experience in kit production (700 Sierras and NorCal 40s) and certainly know what it entails. Privately I commented to some of my friends on this list that a "group effort would never fly", and I still believe that.

The Cascade was conceived on Nov. 11, 1994 and will ship in August. It took 5 months to go from beginning to working prototypes that were reasonable facsimiles of the finished product. This was done with 1 main designer, John Liebenrood, K7RO, who worked closely with and continues to work with several of the other NorCal members on the rig. But John was the MAIN Designer, he called the shots on the design. My job was project manager, for want of a better name. My job was to finance the R & D (more than \$2000 by the time we finish), find all of the parts, push John to finish by Dayton, encourage John when he had problems, get the prototype builders to get their reports in, and then get John to finally say the Cascade was done. He is like all engineers, never finished. I would hate to say how much time John and I have on this project, and there are several others who have made major contributions of time and money. (Not everything is reimburseable, there are a certain amount of "donated funds" to the project.)

Guys, the Cascade happened because there was someone in charge. Not that John or I are any better than anyone else on this list at organization and producing results, but you just can't do a project by committee on the internet. Here are several reasons why:

1. Who decides what the design parameters are?

A. John and I did for the Cascade. He as the engineer telling me if it was reasonable to do, and I as the purse strings guy deciding if we could afford it in the kit. We both had input with a small group of NorCal members about the features of the kit.

2. Who pays for the R & D?

A. NorCal paid for it with the Cascade. Just to give you an example of the type of problem you have. Our first choice for the final was the IRF510, but when we built the first prototypes, there was plenty of power on 75, but 20 meters was a disaster. Our next choice was the MRF477. John ordered 2 of them and it came to \$51.00!! They work well, but cost entirely too much. The next choice was a recommendation from RF Parts, the 2SC2312. We ordered 5 of them at a cost of \$40 including overnight shipping (time was getting short). Thank God the 2SC2312's worked out. We had \$91 in R & D funds just to find a final. Who would pay the bill for this on an Inet rig?????

3. Who keeps the project on schedule? Who sets the deadlines?

What happens when a deadline is missed? I can assure you that all of these are relevant questions. What did we do on the Cascade? John and I negotiated every one of these problems as they came up. You notice the word that I used, negotiate? I chose that word because it is the most accurate to describe the process that John and I used to solve our problems.

4. Then, who is going to order the parts? Who is going to pay for them? What about the parts with the long lead time? Hey, there are some

for the Cascade that were 12 and 14 weeks. We ordered those in March!!

5. What about the number of rigs to produce? If you don't do at least 100, then you will pay an exorbitant amount for parts. Who keeps the unsold rigs?

6. Who puts the parts kits together? Kitting 100 or more kits quickly runs out of the "fun" stage and turns into work. What about mistakes? Missing parts? Support of the kit?

And I could go on and on. Guys if you want to do a rig, let me give you some advice. First of all get 3 or 4 guys together and that is the maximum. YOU set the parameters, and you be in charge. Use the Inet to get help with problems, but DON'T do the design by committee. You will have to invest heavily in time and money. Plan on spending hundreds of hours and be prepared to spend the next few months on the project. You better have an understanding wife or significant other. Is it worth it? Yes I think so. I know Wayne Burdick and Dave Benson and they both have taken great pleasure in seeing others build and enjoy their designs. How do I know this? Because they keep doing it. I have been much more involved in the Cascade than the Sierra or NorCal 40, and I was involved quite a lot with those, but I am still excited every time I think about the Cascade. It is fun to work with projects like these.

Do I think the Inet can do a rig? Yes and no. Yes the talent is here, that is a given. But, no it will not happen unless someone takes charge and keeps the group SMALL and manageable.

Hopefully this piece is of interest and help to those contemplating a design. I don't profess to be the World's expert, but I do have some experience. I have made more than my share of mistakes, and some of them have been expensive, but it has all been a learning experience.

72, Doug

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 15:02:50 1995
Message-Id: <2fba101c.pandora@pandora.lugs.po.my>
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 23:02:50 +0800
From: "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.po.my>
Subject: QRP-L Rig

Hi Gang,

As one of those who started the thread on the INET rig in the past, I must say I concur wholly with Doug's comments and conclusions. One of the problems I kept running into, and which probably contributed to the death of the project, was that everyone wanted something different. Some wanted, this,

or that, and as the features ballooned (creeping featurism or freeing creaturism), the project lost its tangible form and became smoke for the most part. Much as we want to please everyone, I have arrived at the conclusion that this is not possible. For example, some wanted rig control and a data mode rig, others wanted something really simple to build! Some want plenty of features, others want it to be affordable. Many of the parameters are not resolvable, thus SOMEONE must decide on the final features.

I suppose the role that the list will play can be to help argue upon the best way to design an agreed module. For example, someone has a prototype and everyone gives suggestions as to how that can be improved, add features, but based on that design. Then the list will add on to what is already there. I have many ideas of my own, and will probably design my own rig when I have the time.

Secondly, financing the project is a big issue. It goes hand in hand with the commitment the rest of the project team puts into the project. If there is a high degree of confidence and commitment in the project, I don't mind investing money in it. But it is very hard to invest in a certain module when you don't know if the other teams are working as hard. I was supposed to do the frequency counter for the previous INET rig. I now have 4 prototypes of frequency counters, all with PCB layout, fully populated, double sided PCB, and working. I am sure I will find a place for them, but still, it would have been so much more fun if the other teams had coordinated the results and finally pull it together.

Right now, I am thinking of building a PLL VFO, controlled by a PIC. I have the VFO circuitry from somewhere else, and is a one chip affair. Looks simple, and I hope it works well. The PIC interfacing part should be real easy and so will the control part and programming of the PIC. If this works, I will use this module on all my future rigs. This way I can easily have computer control. BTW, me and another ham here have spent some \$2000-\$3000 in the span of 2 to 3 months trying to build various designs of QRP homebrew rigs. I know my wife must think I am crazy but she is really understanding. I sure hope you guys have understanding wives too (one each of course), but Doug's advice on that is right.

In any case, I wish you all the best. And BTW, I have a whole bunch of NE602's (some 50 or so) which I had to buy in bulk for some of the designs we were testing out, cos they don't sell them discretely. If you finally decide on a NE602 project, I don't mind donating a few tens for it. You will find out soon that such a project demands heavy commitment in time, attention and finace. But GL anyway to anyone who wants to try it. I learnt a lot from it in any case, which was my original intention.

73 de 9V1ZV Daniel

--

+-----+-----+-----+-----+

```
| Daniel Wee | daniel@pandora.lugs.po.my |
| 9V1ZV | daniel.wee@f516.n600.z6.fidonet.org |
| UUCP1.12j | Packet: 9V1ZV @ 9V1VS.SGP.AS -- |
+-----+-----+
```

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 18:00:21 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 11:00:21 -0700 (PDT)
From: Alan Kaul <kaul@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: QRP-L Rig
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505171015.A23574-0100000@netcom>

Touche' - Doug. Sounds like pretty sage advice. I guess when I refer to 'an internet rig' I'm combining Norcal Club results with qrp-list wishes. It probably boils down to me (and others like me) putting our comments on-line in hopes that SOMEONE (one!) will take our ideas, design the radio, and make it available to the rest of us. Deep down, I want to keep believing in Santa Claus. Tnx, again, for your note--it makes good sense. 73/72 de alan

[<Alan Kaul, W6RCL>] kaul@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 16:11:17 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 95 10:11:17 MDT
From: hong@usa.acsys.com (Jung Pyo Hong)
Message-Id: <9505171611.AA11112@usa.acsys.com>
Subject: quarantine of qrp messages

Since multiple people at this site are beginning to receive multiple copies of qrp-l, we decided to set up a "user" qrp, then have the "user" automaticall post the incoming mail to the local news group local.qrp

It involves the use of .forward and .procmail and news ... if others are interested in how to solve the problem of getting the qrp distributions and yet keep it isolated (away) from the usual, important mail ... please contact us.

73

kc5jkl

Jung P. Hong P.O. Box 4610, Los Alamos, N.M. 87544

kc5jkl@roadrunner.com kc5jkl@usa.acsys.com
ar sk

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 14:56:00 1995
Message-Id: <sfb9c859.035@ngwmail.ais.umn.edu>
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 09:56:00 -0500
From: Rick Jandrt <r-jand@ngwmail.ais.umn.edu>
Subject: THANKS

Thanks to all who responded. I'm a 6 month baby when it comes to all this PC/List Server/LAN/WAN/whatever stuff. Suffice it to say I did get subscribed to this list server and am looking forward to QS0ing with you all.

Rick Jandrt - Systems Software Programmer - WB9PII
University of Minnesota Voice: (612) 624-6323
1300 So. 2nd St. Suite 626F Fax: (612) 626-1332
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55454-1029 Internet: r-jand@cafe.tc.umn.edu

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 11:54:00 1995
Subject: Re: Tree time & other vag
From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)
Message-Id: <2a6.24283.500@acenet.com>
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 06:54:00 -0500

From: brian.carling@acenet.com

(aa7qy@PrimeNet.Com) writes:

RH>Nils, I have tried the bow and arrow route with some success (except when
RH>the line breaks and had no idea where the darned thing went) and the
RH>slingshot (not accurate enough). I finally settled on my trusty Lunkerstick
RH>fishing rod...it flings a one oz. weight with ease, where I aim it, and
RH>gets over 100' high with no problem. Paint the weight a bright color (
RH>a new thought for me), and let it free-spool down to near the ground.
RH>The plus is that I can justify taking the old fishing rod along on a ham
RH>trip....might even catch dinner, :-).

RH>A pack of 1 oz sinkers is a darned sight cheaper than one arrow, and there
RH>is less potential for damage to anyone on the far side of the target.

But Roger, what is wrong with a 1 ounce ROCK? They are free, and
I've used them successfully to throw up into trees.

The problem I face here is that there are so many trees next to each other. None of them are huge. The tallest are probably no more than 40 or at best 45 feet, and they are packed pretty densely. It's a real challenge. I am not too excited about climbing them, but it may be the only way to weave the antenna up into there without getting caught on all of the limbs that are in the way.

~ SLMR 2.1a ~ You CAN trust the government; Ask any Indian!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 00:48:52 1995
From: rheiss@tuba.aix.calpoly.edu
Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 17:48:52 -0700
Message-Id: <9505170048.AA83919@tuba.aix.calpoly.edu>
Subject: Re: Tree time & other vagaries of the mind

A hard hat would be a good idea when chucking metal tools up in a tree. Chain mail would be a good idea, too. One time a flat file bounced back from a 60 foot branch and I lost sight of it as it whistled down. Narrowly missed me and my car.

Sling shots are hard to find in the stores around here. My current antenna ropes were put up by throwing a cheap football over a branch. Just tie fishing line or mason's twine to the laces. Another handy throwing object is a tennis ball. Borrow an old, slotted one from a big dog and stuff a padlock inside. I'll admit that my neighbors got a good chuckle, and there is nothing over the highest branch yet. :-)

You guys with the field & stream gear are getting the aerals up twice as high. Thanks for sharing how you do it, and good luck on field day.

73, Rob Heiss K06KA

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed May 17 13:17:31 1995
Message-Id: <199505171317.GAA11418@mail3.netcom.com>
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 09:17:31 -0400
From: pelt@vt.edu (Randy Pelt)
Subject: Re: Tree time & other vagaries of the mind

Check out the giant sling shot in the May (?) issue of QST. This looks great for slinging objects over trees. I too have lost many a good wrench in the top limbs :-).

*Ranson J. Pelt CPA,CBA *
*Internal Audit Manager *
*Virginia Tech 0328 *
*Blacksburg, VA 24061 *
*(703) 231-9475 FAX (703) 231-4681 *
* *
*QST de nz4i ex w4wyt Semper Fi *

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 20:03:29 1995
From: "Jeffrey D. Stai" <jds@neptune.net>
Message-Id: <199505172003.NAA12791@neptune.neptune.net>
Subject: Re: Tree time & other vagaries of the mind
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 13:03:29 -0700 (PDT)

Go to your local toy store and get one of these "nerf" foam
footballs with the foam tail. I don't recall the brand name,
but there is a picture of John Elway on the package. You can
tie your line to the tail and throw that sucker a LONG way.

And no one gets hurt...;-)

(either that or call your buddy with the 60lb compound bow
and clear the area! but that's another story...)

jeff stai
ke6knf
jds@neptune.net

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 19:56:46 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 15:56:46 -0400
Message-Id: <199505171956.AA14535@yfn2.ysu.edu>
From: ah301@yfn.ysu.edu (Jerry Sy)
Subject: what is the problem with ladder line fed into the house ?

I have been following the thread about antenna here and I am a regular reader in rec.radio.* and I have always seen statements as to switch to a coax/300 ohm/etc line when the 450 ohm ladder line gets into the house/shack.

what is so no-no about bringing a 450 ohm ladder line into the shack ? is it for rf reason ? physical limitation ? wild imagination ?

puzzled
AA3KN
jerry

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue May 16 20:48:24 1995
Subject: Re: Windom/G5RV/???
Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 13:48:24 -0700
Message-Id: <12755.800657304@safety.ics.uci.edu>
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ICS.UCI.EDU>

> Finally getting some trees trimmed and able to put up 125ft. or so of wire
> for antenna... Off-center fed windom or G5RV???
> Is windom better fed with 300 ohm or coax???
> This will be my only HF antenna..., so want the best bang for my 3 watts!
>

Hi Cleve - I repeat the Often repeated adage: put up as much wire as you can, feed it with open wire (300 ohm will probably do OK if not a long run), and run it to a tuner. Then forget it. Feed it in the middle if you can, or at the end if you must.

The G5RV style antenna does work OK, but for us QRP folks, there are losses that will be noticed in the feed system using coax. Running the open wire all the way to the tuner will drastically reduce those losses.

You will probably get much more detailed advice (I always do, hi hi)

Clark
WA3JPG

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue May 16 21:42:39 1995
Date: Tue, 16 May 95 16:42:39 CDT
From: msdooley@collie.aud.alcatel.com (Michael S. Dooley)

Message-Id: <9505162142.AA23627@collie.aud.alcatel.com>
Subject: Re: Windom/G5RV/???

Cleve,

I have pretty good luck with a 125 foot long wire at 20 feet and oriented in a NE/SW direction.

Mike
KE4PC

> Greetings to qrp-l:
>
> Finally getting some trees trimmed and able to put up 125ft. or so of wire
> for antenna...
>
> Off-center fed windom or G5RV???
>
> Is windom better fed with 300 ohm or coax???
>
> This will be my only HF antenna...too many closed space trees for a beam or
> the like, so want the best bang for my 3 watts!
>
> tnx...cleve/wd5bor
>
> *****
> Some people never find it
> Some only pretend
> But I just want to live
> Happily ever after, now and then
>
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue May 16 22:05:21 1995
Message-Id: <m0sBUjz-00014aC@dxis.monroe.pa.us>
Subject: Re: Windom/G5RV/???
Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 18:05:21 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Bob Schreibmaier" <k2ph@dxis.monroe.pa.us>

> Finally getting some trees trimmed and able to put up 125ft. or so of wire
> for antenna...
>
> Off-center fed windom or G5RV???
>
> Is windom better fed with 300 ohm or coax???

I have tried both within the past few years. The G5RV that I had worked well on only one band. Believe it or not, it was 40, not 20! I've had good luck with an off-center fed dipole, 135 feet long, fed 45 feet from one end with a 4:1 balun. Had lots of RF in the shack until I put about a foot worth of ferrite at the feedpoint. That might not be a problem with only a few watts. Oh yes, I used 50-ohm coax to the 4:1 balun.

Anyway, the off-center fed antenna worked well on 80, 40, 20, and 10. It also seemed to have a decent SWR on 17 and 12 meters, but I can't say that it worked very well on those bands.

73,
Bob K2PH

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+----- \-\-\- -----+
| Bob Schreibmaier K2PH | INTERNET: k2ph@dxis.monroe.pa.us |
| (a.k.a. "The QRPer") | ICBM:      40o55'N 75o30'W |
| Kresgeville, PA      | Euthanize the Limbaugh Loonies. |
+-----+

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From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue May 16 22:22:11 1995
Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 14:22:11 -0800 (PST)
From: CHARLIE LOFGREN <CLOFGREN@BENSON.MCKENNA.EDU>
Subject: Re: Windom/G5RV/???
Message-Id: <01HQK06RPE52000JOT@BENSON.MCKENNA.EDU>

Cleve,

I suggest you use ~~*neither*~~ a G5RV or a Windom. Instead, try a center-fed wire (the so-called "center-fed zepp") long enough to take advantage of the 125 feet between your two trees. Exact length isn't critical. Feed it with enough balanced line to reach the shack and antenna tuner. You can use low-loss 300 ohm twin-lead, 450 ohm ladder line, or open wire line (4-6 inch spacing, not at all critical). If you use 450 ohm or open wire line, just switch to twin-lead where the line enters the house. It's more convenient to run inside, and the impedance change makes no difference because the line isn't operated as a "flat" line. The tuner tunes the whole system to resonance. (See Walt Maxwell's book "Reflections" [ARRL] for a detailed explanation.)

The G5RV is simply one version--and a very over-rated version--of the center-fed zepp. It needs an antenna tuner in most

instances. So if you have 125 feet for the antenna and will need a tuner anyway, why limit yourself to 102 feet?

The Windom works (supposedly) on the harmonically related bands (80, 40, 20, 10, if the flattop is about 136 feet long), but often requires a tuner even on them. Also, the off-center feed often leads to balance problems on the feedline. The center-fed zepp is simpler and more versatile. If you do use the Windom with coax, you will need a 4:1 or 6:1 balun at the feed point. You may still get feed-line radiation from the coax because of induced current on the outside of shield resulting from the asymmetrical coupling between the feed line and the antenna. (Actually, the Windom you refer to is not a true Windom, which has single-wire feed and needs a ground return.)

72/73

Charlie, w6jjz
clofgren@benson.mckenna.edu

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 12:26:31 1995
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 05:26:31 -0700 (PDT)
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Re: Windom/G5RV/???
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950517052113.11015A-100000@crl12.crl.com>

Don't short change the single fed wire WinDom. They do work. I used one for many years on 80, 40 and 20 meters. You will need a Pi network in the output of your xmitter or a series coil in the antenna tuner. PI works great without the need for a tuner.

Running less than 25 watts input I was easily able to work all states on 40 meter with a little DX, got WAC on 20 meters and over 30 states on 80 meters.

My feed line was about 50 ' and I used a 8' gnd rod.

Sometimes simple antennas work very well. Oh yes the antenna was only 20 ' above the ground.

73 de stan ak0b

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed May 17 14:42:16 1995

From: JCoote@aol.com
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 10:42:16 -0400
Message-Id: <950517104213_121806706@aol.com>
Subject: Re: Windom/G5RV/???

I recommend the G5RV over a Windom. The length of a G5RV flat-top is approximately 102 feet. The downlead on most G5RV antennas is 300 ohm twinlead. The downlead length is 32-34 feet. The length combinations of the G5RV flat-top and feeder provide impedances close to 50 ohms on 8 ham bands.

Some hams have used a DIRECT connection between 50-ohm coax and the twinlead of the G5RV and have had good luck on some ham bands between 80 and 10 meters without a tuner. I would prefer to skip the coax-to-twinlead transition and use a good tuner with a balun.

If you run the tuner-balun setup, then the flat-top and feeder lengths are not as critical.. as long as your tuner works on all 8-9 bands. If the flat-top and feeder lengths are something different, then the antenna would (technically) not be a G5RV but should work equally well.

The G5RV (300-to-coax version) works well with those "coax-only" tuners or cheap tuners with limited inductance and capacitance inside. When tuner manufacturers cheat on L/C in the tuner, the tuner is less likely to work on extreme impedances and antenna reactances. Some of those "companion" coax-only tuners for brand "K" "I" or "Y" used to only cover 25-150 ohms... and non reactive. Those values might not tune a Zepp with balun, but should work with the tamer impedances-reactances on the feeders of a G5RV.

You would also want to feed a Windom with 300 ohm line and a tuner with balun. Since the antenna is fed off-center, (unbalanced) there may be a little more RF radiating from the feedline than in a G5RV, Zepp or center-fed. The G5RV and Windom would perform about the same, with less problems getting the G5RV to load on all bands.

There are some G5RV write-ups in ARRL and RSGB books.

72, Jay WB6AAM (ARCI 5050)
jcoote@aol.com
WB6AAM@K6VE.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA